

Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

NEWSLETTER Vol. 1/No. 1 September 15, 1969

This newsletter will provide information on a periodical basis about the Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs. This first issue presents a summary report of the development and establishment of the Center and its activities during July and August, 1969.

I. DEVELOPMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT

The 1960's have been years of significant international involvement and development for Southern Illinois University, having staffed and carried out major programs of educational assistance in Afghanistan, Mali, Nepal, Nigeria, Thailand and Vietnam.

The University has been providing technical assistance in Vietnam since 1961 through two contracts with the Agency for International Development (AID), U.S. Department of State; one in vocational education (1961-1966), and the other in elementary education (1961 to date). Under these two programs forty-one staff members of the University have provided over a thousand man-months of advisory services in Vietnam and fifty-seven Vietnamese matriculating students have had over fifteen-hundred man-months of study on the Carbondale Campus.

Discussions within the University were initiated in 1965 concerning the qualifications of SIU to become a center for information and knowledge about that portion of Southeast Asia which has North and South Vietnam as its major focus. After three years of further discussion, study and continued involvement in Vietnam, consideration of the establishment of such a center was intensified during the Fall of 1968 -- primarily because an academic center as was envisaged:

- a. Did not then exist in American higher education, despite the importance of the geographical area concerned and the intense U.S. involvement in it;
- b. Could carry out needed research and evaluation of the relatively long period of SIU experience in Vietnam -- and, indeed, of related educational experiences of other American universities in that area -- in order to provide guidelines for future developmental assistance; and
- c. Could become a major resource -- national and international, governmental and non-governmental -- for assistance in the reconstruction of Vietnam.

Accordingly, late in 1968 a specific proposal was drafted

for the reorganization of the University's Vietnamese program into a "Center." Several months of consideration of this draft culminated in a meeting held on 28 February 1969 with twenty-six faculty and staff members who had been associated with the University's work in Vietnam. As a result of this meeting, a final proposal for a center was submitted to President Delyte W. Morris who forwarded it to the Board of Trustees of the University with his recommendation that the proposal be approved.

At its meeting of 21 March 1969, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved "... reorganization of the Vietnam program and establishment of a Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs, subject to further approval by the State of Illinois Board of Higher Education." --which was given unanimously on 3 June 1969 in Chicago.

During April, May and June of 1969, further elaboration and refinement of the plan for the Center was carried out by staff officers with major assistance from an internal Advisory Committee of faculty and staff (established 26 March 1969) and a number of prominent external consultants including: Dr. John Donnell of the Department of Political Science of Temple University; Mr. Peter N. Gillingham, Executive Associate of Education and World Affairs; Dr. David Marr of the Department of Political Science of the University of California at Berkeley; and Dr. I. Milton Sacks of the Department of Politics of Brandeis University.

Also, during this period, three new, regular appointments to the University (designed to strengthen the resources of the Center as well) were initiated, as follows:

- a. Dr. Wesley R. Fishel of Michigan State University as Visiting Research Professor of Government for the 1969-70 academic year, effective 19 September 1969. Professor Fishel was awarded his Ph.D. in International Relations at the University of Chicago in 1948. He has been a member of the Michigan State University faculty since 1951 and served as Chief of the MSU Advisory Group in Vietnam, 1956-1958. He is the author and editor of many works about Vietnam including the authoritative and balanced *Vietnam: Anatomy of a Conflict*.
- b. Dr. Nguyen Dinh Hoa, Counselor for Cultural Affairs and Education, Embassy of Vietnam, and former Dean of Arts and Sciences, University of Saigon, as Professor of English and Linguistics, effective 19 September 1969. Professor Hoa was awarded his

Ph.D. in English Education at New York University in 1956. He has been a member of the Faculty of Letters of the University of Saigon since 1957 (and currently is on leave from that faculty) and served as Secretary-General of the Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO from 1962 to 1966. A former Vice President of the General Association of Teachers of Vietnam, Professor Hoa is the author of many major and widely-used publications for the teaching of Vietnamese to English-speaking people.

- * c. Dr. John Laybourn, formerly Associate Director of the Asia Training Center at the University of Hawaii, as Associate Dean of the International Services Division, effective 1 August 1969. Dr. Laybourn was awarded his Ed.D. in Educational Administration at the University of Wyoming in 1964. He was head of the Department of Aerospace Studies at the University of Wyoming from 1960 through 1964. As a manpower specialist he subsequently served in studies of manpower requirements in Japan, Korea, Okinawa, Southeast Asia and the Philippine Islands. His design and administration of the Asia Training Center training program from 1967 to 1969 reflected the many and varied lessons of his broad experience in Southeast Asia.

The Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs became operational on 1 July 1969 with the primary purpose of developing into a national center for information and scholarship on North and South Vietnam. The Center, as established, has instructional, research and service functions.

As an educational organization the Center cooperates with the academic units of the University in:

1. the development and staffing of Vietnamese and related study programs as a regular part of the curriculum of the University;
2. the training of both American and Vietnamese scholars and other professionals who can:
 - a. contribute to the growth and dissemination of knowledge of Vietnam through multidisciplinary effort;
 - b. participate in and contribute to the development of a symbiotic relationship between one or more Vietnamese universities and SIU;
 - c. contribute to the success of the programs of other organizations working in Vietnam as consultants to external government and private agencies.
3. the preparation of both technicians and professionals for specific goal-related project undertakings in the economic and social development of Vietnam, with special attention and opportunity provided for Vietnamese and American veterans of the Vietnam conflict, who, as a means of purposeful contribution to the post-war reconstruction of that country, are interested in and qualified for one of the following:
 - a. an associate degree program at SIU Vocational-Technical Institute in such fields as irrigation technology, aviation, building technology, sanitation and other programs that can be developed to meet identified Vietnamese needs;
 - b. a bachelor's degree program such as teacher education, economics, agriculture, engineering,

nutrition and health, language teaching and other fields applicable to Vietnamese needs;

- c. a master's degree program such as linguistics and language, rehabilitation, cultural anthropology, business and community development.
4. the promotion of intercultural understanding through development of undergraduate and graduate course offerings for the general student in Vietnamese language and culture.

As a research organization the Center assists:

1. the academic units of the University in:
 - a. assessing SIU and related experience in Vietnam with a view to drawing the lessons of that experience for the guidance of Vietnamese and American students, faculty, technicians and administrators concerned with Vietnam and its neighbors;
 - b. collecting, on a continuing basis, Vietnamese language materials and literature, and materials about Vietnam suitable to support scholarly inquiry and research;
 - c. conducting research such as manpower surveys; inventory of available skilled human resources and existing training facilities necessary and preparatory to the development of new proposals for economic and social assistance to Vietnam;
 - d. conducting research designed to help identify an order of priorities in training both Vietnamese and American students and scholars to deal with Vietnam and its neighbors, and recommending long range academic programs especially addressed to helping Vietnamese students train to fill the roles of historians, anthropologists, etc. for their own country;
2. private and government organization administrators in applied:
 - a. fundamental data gathering preparatory to analysis of field situations and problems relating to the purposes of the center;
 - b. study and evaluation of on-going projects designed to provide objective criteria and reports to both technicians and administrators;
 - c. administrative problem solving through thorough and rigid scientific inquiry-testing hypotheses.

As a service organization the Center:

1. provides special consultation -- short and long-term -- and training services to private and government organizations working in Vietnam, making available the expert advice and services of the personnel of the Center and the University at large;
2. provides resources in personnel, materials and facilities including translation for conferences, symposia, workshops, etc., of interested Vietnamese and American educators and administrators discussing common interests and problems relative to the purposes of the Center;
3. maintains an inventory of the capabilities of U.S. universities as possible expert resources for work and programming relative to the economic and social development of Vietnam.

II. JULY AND AUGUST 1969

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. STAFF

The Center which had existed previously as a "developmental activity" became operational on 1 July 1969 as an integral part of the International Services Division headed by Dean John O. Anderson. Dr. John E. King accepted the invitation of Chancellor Robert W. MacVicar and Vice President Ralph W. Ruffner to serve as Director of the Center through the summer quarter of 1969. Staff appointments included:

Dr. Robert Jacobs, Professor of Educational Administration and Foundations, and Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services as Coordinator of Development

Dr. H.B. Jacobini, Professor of Government, as Coordinator of Operations and AID 211-D Officer (Acting)

Dr. William Tudor, Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services, for Congressional Relations

* Dr. John Laybourn, Associate Dean of the International Services Division assumed special responsibilities for support services to the Center.

2. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The "Development Advisory Committee" for the Center set up on 26 March 1969 was changed to the "Advisory Committee" on 30 July 1969. The Committee membership is as follows (* indicates individual joined Committee on 22 August):

Dr. John O. Anderson—Professor of Speech Pathology and Dean of the International Services Division (Chairman)

Dr. Arthur L. Aikman—Associate Professor of Secondary Education

✓ Dr. Fred L. Armistead—Associate Professor and Functional Area Coordinator for Educational Administration and Foundations

✓ *Dr. Ron I. Beazley—Professor of Geography

*Dr. Lawrence Bernstein—Assistant Professor of Art

Dr. Oliver J. Caldwell—Professor of Higher Education and Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services

*Mr. Robert C. Child—Instructor and Assistant Director for Training and Consulting Services, Community Development Services

Dr. Harold L. DeWeese—Associate Professor of Secondary Education and Chief Academic Adviser of the College of Education

*Dr. Jennie M. Harper—Professor of Home Economics

✓ Dr. Clarence Hendershot—Assistant Professor of History and Assistant Dean for International Student Services, International Services Division

Dr. M. Keith Humble—Professor of Technical Edu-

cation and Director of the Vocational-Technical Institute

Dr. H. B. Jacobini—Professor of Government

*Dr. Thomas Jefferson—Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Dean of the School of Technology

Dr. Daryle Kcefer—Professor of Secondary Education

✓ Dr. Wendell E. Keepper—Professor of Agricultural Industries and Dean of the School of Agriculture

Dr. John E. King—Professor and Chairman of the Department of Education Administration and Foundations, also Director of the Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs

Dr. Ping-Chia Kuo—Professor and Chairman of the Department of History

*Dr. Wayne Leys—Professor of Philosophy

✓ *Dr. Howard Long—Professor and Chairman of the Department of Journalism

Mr. William Lyons—Assistant Professor of Journalism and Director of University News Services

Dr. Willis Malone—Professor of Elementary Education and Assistant to the Chancellor

* Dr. Joel Maring—Associate Professor of Anthropology and Chairman of the Asian Studies Committee

*Mr. Andrew Powell—Instructor of Marketing

*Mr. Broekman Schumacher—Instructor of Rehabilitation

*Dr. Richard Thomas—Assistant Professor and Director of Community Development Services

3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Center, established 1 July 1969 is composed of:

Dr. Ralph W. Ruffner, Vice President for Area and International Services (Chairman)

Dr. John O. Anderson, Dean of the International Services Division

Dr. John E. King, Director of the Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs

During the month of August the Executive Committee was enlarged to include:

Dr. Robert Jacobs, Coordinator of Development
Dr. H.B. Jacobini, Coordinator of Operations and AID 211-D Officer (Acting)

Dr. I. Clark Davis, Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services

The principal function of the Executive Committee is to prepare recommendations on any operational matters of the Center which require the attention of the Chancellor, or through the Chancellor, the attention of the President.

B. AID INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

On 11 July 1969 President Morris and Chancellor MacVicar met with Dr. John A. Hannah, Administrator of AID in Washington, D.C. for the announcement of an Institutional Development Grant to the University's Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs. They were

joined by Senators Everett M. Dirksen and Charles A. Percy as well as Congressman Kenneth Gray and Melvin Price who witnessed the formal acceptance of the Grant. The Grant, which is for a period of five years, will, in its own words:

"...strengthen the existing competency of the Southern Illinois University Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs for its programs of technical assistance and consultation, research and training related to the economic and social needs of Vietnam and its post-war reconstruction. The Grant will help to provide secure, long term support for an expanded core program including salaries of key staff members engaged in original research, integration of findings of previous research, teaching, and developing new curricula. It will also provide support for domestic and foreign graduate and special students and for library acquisitions. It will make possible the hiring of new Vietnamese and U.S. faculty and the creation of additional professional strength and competence in economic and social programming for Vietnam; it will help finance visiting U.S. and Vietnamese scholars for seminars, courses and symposia. It will provide for expansion of the University's present focus on Vietnamese Educational problems to include broader economic and social development needs and requests for assistance to which the relevant disciplines of the University will respond. The work of the Center will be coordinated and integrated with, and supported by, the existing and expanding University activities in the relevant disciplines."

OPERATIONAL SUBCOMMITTEES

As a first step in the implementation of the AID Grant the Advisory Committee for the Center established the following five operational subcommittees on 22 August: Professorships, Fellowships, Library, Research and Travel. The faculty and staff listed accepted invitations to serve on the responsive subcommittees for the concerns indicated in each case:

Subcommittee on Professorships

- ✓ Dr. Wendell E. Keeper—Professor and Dean of the School of Agriculture
- Dr. Ping-Chia Kuo—Professor and Chairman of the Department of History
- *Dr. Shu-Ihsien Liu—Assistant Professor of Philosophy
- Dr. Willis Malone—Professor of Elementary Education and Assistant to the Chancellor
- *Dr. Joel Maring—Associate Professor of Anthropology and Chairman of the Asian Studies Committee
- *Dr. Henry Dan Piper—Professor of English

(*joined subcommittee on 3 September)

The Subcommittee on Professorships is concerned with the identification, consideration and recruitment of "Vietnamologists", and the development of criteria and procedures with respect to filling the professional positions supported by the Grant.

Subcommittee on Fellowships

Dr. Harold L. DeWeese—Associate Professor of Secondary

Education and Chief Academic Adviser of the College of Education (Chairman)

- ✓ Dr. Ron Beazley—Professor of Geography
- Dr. Herman Haag—Professor of Agricultural Industries
- Dr. H. B. Jacobini—Professor of Government
- Dr. Bruce MacLachlan—Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of President's Scholars Program, also Assistant to the Chancellor

The Subcommittee on Fellowships is concerned with development of criteria and procedures for filling the fellowship positions supported by the Grant, and assisting in the identification, consideration and recruitment of fellowship candidates.

Subcommittee on Library

- ✓ Mr. Ferris S. Randall—Director of Morris Library (Chairman)
- ✓ Dr. Daryle Keefer—Professor of Secondary Education
- Dr. John E. King—Professor and Chairman of the Department of Educational Administration and Cultural Foundations, also Director of the Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs
- * Dr. John E. Laybourn—Associate Dean of the International Services Division
- ✓ Dr. Howard Long—Professor and Chairman of the Department of Journalism

The Subcommittee on Library is concerned with development of criteria and Procedures for library acquisitions supported by the Grant; identification of, and work with, Library consultants; identification, consideration and recruitment of the Librarian to be supported by the Grant.

Subcommittee on Research

- ✓ Dr. Oliver Caldwell—Professor of Higher Education and Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services
- Dr. John O. Anderson—Professor of Speech Pathology and Dean of the International Services Division
- ✓ Dr. Thomas Jefferson—Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Dean of the School of Technology
- Dr. John E. King—Professor and Chairman of the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations, also Director of the Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs
- Dr. Arthur E. Lean—Professor of Educational Administration and Foundations

The Subcommittee on Research is concerned with recommendations regarding the SIU/AID Vietnam contract report and its research component; identification if, and work with, research consultants; identification, consideration and recruitment of the researcher to be supported (half-time) by the Grant.

Subcommittee on Travel

- * Dr. Joel Maring—Associate Professor of Anthropology and Chairman of the Asian Studies Committee (Chairman)
- Dr. John O. Anderson—Professor of Speech Pathology and Dean of the International Services Division

Dr. I. Clark Davis—Professor of Higher Education and Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services

Dr. H. B. Jacobini—Professor of Government

✓ Dr. Wendell E. Keeper—Professor of Agricultural Industries and Dean of the School of Agriculture

The Subcommittee on Travel is concerned with development of criteria and procedures for travel - domestic and international - to be supported by the Grant.

C. TASK FORCES

Five Task Forces were established by the Advisory Committee for the Center on 8 July as follows:

The Task Force on Vietnamese Education and Training (VET)

The Task Force on Professorial Chair and Journal of Vietnamese Studies

The Task Force on Sisterhood Relationships

The Task Force on Conference of Scholars

The Task Force on Vietnamese Language and Culture

The work of the five Task Forces was coordinated by Dr. Robert Jacobs. In addition to Dr. Jacobs' services and consultation, all five Task Forces drew extensively upon the consultative advice of Dr. I. Milton Sacks of Brandeis University (who was on-campus for the month of August), Dr. Wesley R. Fishel of Michigan State University, Dr. Nguyen-Dinh Hoa, Counselor for Cultural Affairs and Education of the Embassy of Vietnam, Dr. Cecil Hobbs, Chief South Asia Section, Library of Congress and Dr. Kenneth Young, President of The Asia Society.

Dr. Jacobs reported, on 29 August, on the general atmosphere in which the Task Forces worked and summarized their concerns and recommendations - as abstracted below.

"During July and August, at a time when universities are not in full operation, some 56 key members of the SIU staff and faculty were involved in some 28 regular task force meetings (not counting special subcommittee meetings), producing some 36 papers and documents of various sort relating to the task force work (not counting the minutes of the 28 meetings, and working with obvious enthusiasm and zeal.

"An element of good faith undergirded the work of the task forces. Assurance was given that they were not simply being asked to rubber stamp commitments already made at higher levels. It was understood and believed by the participants in this mobilization exercise that their deliberations and their recommendations would form the basis for decisions and actions, and that any task force was privileged, if it saw fit, to recommend negatively on its area of concern. It could be seriously doubted that what has happened would have ever taken place had it not been for this element of good faith.

The Task Force on Vietnamese Education and Training (VET)

✓ Dr. Daryle E. Keefer—Professor of Secondary Education (Chairman)

Mr. Irving Adams—Assistant Professor of Secondary Education

Dr. Roger E. Beyler—Professor of Chemistry and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

*Dr. R. F. Bortz—Assistant Professor of Technology

Dr. George C. Brown—Assistant Professor of Journalism

Dr. David E. Christensen—Professor of Geography and Assistant Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Mr. Frank A. Coyle—Instructor of Rehabilitation

Dr. Harold L. DeWese—Associate Professor of Secondary Education and Chief Academic Adviser of the College of Education

✓ Dr. Herman Haag—Professor of Agricultural Industries

*Dr. Jennie Harper—Professor of Home Economics

Dr. M. Keith Humble—Director of the Vocational Technical Institute

Mr. Jerry Lacey—Coordinator of University Services to Carbondale

Dr. Robert E. Lee—Assistant Professor of Rehabilitation and Coordinator of Rehabilitation Administration Program

Mr. Jeffery Long—Graduate Assistant in Community Development Services

Dr. Ester Maring—Instructor of Anthropology

Dr. Robert A. McGrath—Professor of Government and Registrar

*Mr. Andrew Powell—Instructor of Marketing

Dr. Guy A. Renzaglia—Professor and Director of the Rehabilitation Institute

Mr. Walter G. Robinson—Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services

Dr. James M. Rosser—Assistant Professor of Health Education and Director of Black American Studies Program

*Mr. Brockman Schumacher—Instructor of Rehabilitation
Dr. Lonnie Shelby—Associate Professor of History and Associate Dean of the Graduate School

Mr. Ernest J. Simon—Professor of Technical Education and Dean of Technical and Adult Education

Dr. Richard Thomas—Associate Professor and Acting Director of Community Development Services

Dr. Herbert Wohlwend—Assistant Professor of Educational Administration and Assistant Registrar

Mr. Harrison Youngren—Instructor of Secretarial and Business Education

Dr. Jacobs Reported:

"This task force was to explore the possibility of training specialists for service in development projects in Vietnam as a Center activity, concerned primarily with the possibility of attracting Vietnamese and U.S. veterans of the Vietnam war into such special training.

"At an early stage in the task force deliberations it was discovered that Vietnamese participants would not be available for the fall term. A special recruitment program in Vietnam will be required to provide veterans with the necessary qualifications to undertake special training at SIU.

"It was understood that this task force would depend on the Vietnamese Language and Culture Task Force for the development of special language courses and courses about Vietnam which would be incorporated into the special programs planned by the VET Task Force. This involved close liaison between the two task forces, which in actuality was carried out by cross-representation at the meetings of the two groups.

"The orientation of the VET program was questioned:

was it to be designed exclusively for veterans or would it be open to all persons interested in preparing for work in Vietnam. It was pointed out that the acronym VET was not a shortened label for veterans. Since it was felt that the program should meet effectively the special needs of veterans reflected in selection programs, but that the program should be open to all interested persons.

"A major concern of the Task Force, and one that still has not been resolved, is the lack of reliable information about employment opportunities in Vietnam. It was agreed to proceed with program development on the following assumptions: (1) Special Vietnamese language courses and courses about Vietnam can be worked into the regular degree programs now offered at SIU to provide special training for work in Vietnam; (2) There will probably be opportunities for employment in Vietnam covering a variety of specialties when post-war rebuilding starts; (3) If and when manpower needs for Vietnam are identified, the focus of the VET program can be sharpened.

"It was pointed out that many of the interested veterans may be from groups who have been disadvantaged educationally. Their special needs must be accommodated. It was agreed that considerable developmental and experimental work needs to be done to have effective and defensible supporting services along these lines.

The Task Force on Professorial Chair and Journal of Vietnamese Studies

* Dr. Willis B. Malone—Professor of Elementary Education and Assistant to the Chancellor (Chairman)

Dr. Addison C. Hickman—Vandevor Professor of Economics

Dr. H. B. Jacobini—Professor of Government

Mr. Earl E. Parkhill—Head of Central Publications

Dr. William Simeone—Professor of English and Drama of the Graduate School

Mr. Vernon A. Sternberg—Director of the University Press

Dr. Jacobs Reported:

"It is proposed to establish a journal to aid in the rapid dissemination of knowledge of Vietnam and other societies in South East Asia as they relate to Vietnam. It should be the purpose of the journal to provide an open forum for scholars of all viewpoints. The journal's editorial policy should reflect a broad spectrum of scholarly interest. It should invite controversial articles written in the traditional language of scholarship, by scholars for scholars and a wider audience, without dogma or hidden purpose. It is intended that the journal will be inter-disciplinary.

"The editor or editors of the journal will be regularly-appointed members of the faculty of Southern Illinois University especially versed in Vietnamese affairs, assisted by an editorial board drawn from outstanding scholars in Vietnamese studies. In addition to its editorial board, the journal will have a board of advisory editors composed, hopefully, of Vietnamologists wherever they may be found internationally. The journal will draw heavily upon its advisory editors for suggestion and advice, criticism and evaluation of its publishing efforts.

"Articles will be published in the language of the contributor, except that when an article is of unusual interest and importance it will be published simultaneously in English. It is expected that at the start articles will be published in

Vietnamese, French, and English. The journal will endeavor to report on events of scholarly or academic interest, and will endeavor to review significant books published throughout the world. Each article will be preceded by an extensive abstract in two of the other languages stressed; e.g., English and Vietnamese, English and French, or French and Vietnamese.

"The proposed journal will be published quarterly. It will be the official organ of the Southern Illinois University Center for Vietnamese Studies.

"No definite conclusions have been reached by this Task Force regarding the proposed Chair of Vietnamese Studies. The following issues have been identified: (1) What is the rationale; (2) What discipline should it embrace; should it be on a permanent or revolving basis; should it be fully or partially endowed? (3) Should the holder of the Chair also be editor of the journal?

The Task Force on Sisterhood Relationships

Dr. Arthur L. Aikman—Assistant Professor of Secondary Education (Chairman)

✓ Dr. Oliver J. Caldwell—Professor of Higher Education and Assistant to the Vice President for Area and International Services

Dr. Herman Haag—Professor of Agricultural Industries

Mr. Mark Hansen—Graduate Student

* Dr. M. Keith Humble—Professor of Technology and Director of the Vocational Technical Institute

✓ Dr. Howard Long—Professor and Chairman of the Department of Journalism

✓ Dr. Paul Morrill—Assistant to the President

Dr. Donald Robinson—Professor of Higher Education and Assistant Dean of the College of Education

Dr. Jacobs Reported:

"Attention in the task force discussions was focused on the question of single university versus multiple university tie-in on the Vietnamese side. The advantage of a broad base (multiple university tie-in) for future development appealed to many. The matter was resolved temporarily by deciding to let the Ministry of Education in Saigon give their views before a definite decision is made. The Task Force drafted a letter for President Morris to send to the Vietnamese Ambassador in Washington, reporting the interest of SIU in forming a sister relationship with one or more Vietnamese universities, and suggesting that our interest be reported by the Ambassador to the Minister of Education in Saigon.

"It was felt that SIU should have some means of influencing the nature of the request submitted by the Vietnamese institutions, the activities involved in the sister relationships, and so on. For this reason, it was decided that appropriate Center officers should also prepare a statement SIU would be interested in and prepared to implement. Since Dr. Paul Morrill was planning a SE Asian trip in late August and early September, he was commissioned to include Vietnam on his itinerary and to discuss sister relationships in very general terms with Vietnamese educators. Exploratory contact with the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in the State Department in Washington was made to obtain general guidelines under the subsidies provided by that Bureau.

"The Task Force recommended that a sisterhood rela-

tionship be established between Southern Illinois University and one or more Vietnamese universities and recommended that the relationship be broader than a single university on the Vietnamese side. The Task Force recommended that:

1. Stress be placed on possible assistance and counsel which the SIU Center may draw from the Vietnamese institution or institutions in the proposed relationship.
2. SIU has resources represented in the Department of English Master's Degree Program in CESL and the Center for English as a Second Language from which personnel and graduate students could be drawn to assist with English language teaching needs in the Vietnamese universities.
3. SIU is prepared to supply a professor of American History for the American Studies Program in any of the Vietnamese universities.
4. SIU would be interested in joining forces with Vietnamese scholars to carry out mutually agreeable research studies of Buddhism and Buddhist communities. This would involve Buddhism as well as the related Neo-Buddhist variants of Hoa Hao and Cao Dai. In addition, the Theravada Khmer minority is of interest.

The Task Force on Conference of Scholars

- ✓ Dr. Clarence Hendershot—Assistant Dean of the International Student Services (Chairman)
- ✓ Dr. Fred L. Armistead—Associate Professor of Educational Administration and Foundations
- Mr. Clarence G. Dougherty—Director of the University Center
- Mr. Clarence A. Frazer—Assistant Director of University News Services
- Mr. Joseph W. Gasser—Administrator of Housing Services
- Mr. Joseph N. Goodman—Coordinator of Information and Scheduling Center
- Mr. Andrew H. Marcee—Coordinator of University Extension Services
- Mr. Kenneth R. Miller—Assistant to the President

Dr. Jacobs Reported:

"In the initial meetings of the Task Force on Conference of Scholars it was discovered that the Asia Society and the Council on Vietnamese Studies had done some preliminary planning for a conference of Vietnamese scholars on the subject of the Vietnamese National Identity. The conference had not been held partly because a suitable location had not been selected, but the idea had not been abandoned and funds were available for financing substantial portions of the conference costs.

"In addition to this identified conference possibility, the Task Force considered other types of meetings. It was proposed that SIU might offer to host a meeting of the Council on Vietnamese Studies being planned for October 1969. The Task Force proposed that planning for a larger conference of scholars be continued with a view toward hosting such a meeting perhaps a year later - in the fall of 1970.

The Task Force recommended:

That the Center should host a series of conferences as part of its ongoing program.

That the Asia Society be contracted to explore the possibility of holding a jointly sponsored conference.

That the primary objectives of the conference should include:

1. The bringing together of scholars to share their information and ideas.
2. The focusing of attention on the Vietnamese Center as a resource for the study of Vietnam and the problems of post-war reconstruction.

The Task Force on Vietnamese Language and Culture

- ✓ Dr. Ping-Chia Kuo—Professor and Chairman of the Department of History (Chairman)
- Dr. Vernon L. Anderson—Associate Professor of Foreign Languages
- *Mr. Lawrence Bernstein—Assistant Professor of Art
- *Dr. John Laybourn—Associate Dean of the International Services Division
- *Dr. Joel Maring—Associate Professor of Anthropology and Chairman of the Asian Studies Committee
- Dr. Charles Parish—Associate Professor of English
- ✓ Dr. James E. Redden—Associate Professor of English

Dr. Jacobs Reported:

"The short-term responsibility given this task force was the planning of language and culture offerings for the coming fall quarter. The long-term responsibility concerns the development of a total program which will provide language skills and knowledge about Vietnam to students at the three program levels now operated by SIU - Associate Degree (2-year), undergraduate, and graduate. The latter responsibility requires a thorough review of existing courses on SE Asia to determine their suitability for the program of Vietnamese studies, an indication of new courses needed, an assessment of faculty resources for handling these courses, and the identification of disciplinary areas where new faculty will be needed. Requirements for language will need similar study and recommendation.

"The Task Force acted not only as a planning group, but, to some extent as an implementing group as well with regard to the short-term task. A subcommittee was designated to deal with the language piece, requirements were determined for offering a beginning Vietnamese language course, and arrangements were made to provide for this course. The courses to be taught by Dr. Fishel in the Department of Government and the beginning Vietnamese language course were then given publicity.

"Professor Fishel's courses - Political Development and Behavior in Vietnam - for the fall quarter (Government 321, Section 2, for undergraduates and Government 502, for graduates) will be focused on the development of nationalist and communist political groupings in Vietnam during and subsequent to the period of French colonial domi-

nation. Special emphasis will be placed on problems of political leadership, factionalism, religious influences, and involvement of the military in politics. Attention will also be given to the foreign relations of the two Vietnams and to the prospects for future political development. Outside scholars will be brought in to provide the students with the various shades of opinion.

"The courses Professor Hoa will offer this fall quarter are G.S.D. 210, Uncommon Languages - Vietnamese - introduction to phonology and morphology; concentration on the acquisition of conversational skills and reading skills; classroom, lab and drill-aided by native speakers as drill instructors and informants. Certain courses in the existing SE Asian Studies Program thought to be appropriate for Vietnamese studies will also be available in the fall.

"Work on the longer-range task has included (1) a preliminary inventory of faculty with interests in SE Asia, (2) an inventory of Vietnamese students enrolled and to be enrolled at SIU, (3) an inventory of existing courses on SE

Asia, (4) a preliminary consideration of policies and procedures with respect to research and research fellows, and (5) liaison work with the VET Task Force.

"The work of this Task Force is basic to the operation of all of the academic programs of the Center. The long-range task cannot be hurried. It involves a complex process of dealing with several academic departments, observing standard university policies and procedures, winning and maintaining support of new ideas, and just plain hard work."

The work of the Task Forces, their reports to the Advisory Committee and first steps in implementation of recommended programs will be reported in the next issue of the Newsletter.

"It is obvious that such a program as we are embarking upon will bring criticism from both ends of the spectrum of opinion on the Vietnamese conflict. This was anticipated at the outset and it will be surprising if it does not occur. The "dove" will presume the University is undertaking to create a facility to support the war and will be antagonized and critical. The "hawk" will be unhappy because the University is clearly committed to work with the entire Vietnamese area now divided into North and South Vietnam. It will be very unlikely if the University's efforts to involve itself in the study of North Vietnam do not bring criticism from this particular segment.

In response to this, the University's position should be very clear. It is our intention to be a center for scholarly study of Vietnam and its immediate area and in this to be absolutely divorced from commitment to any particular point of view either within the countries of North and South Vietnam or within the United States. Only through such a position can we achieve the objectives which we seek and be responsible husbandman of the grant from the State Department which is clearly designed to enhance the competence of the University to carry on objective scholarship and research without regard to the particular public issues or the foreign policy of the United States at any given moment in time."

Chancellor Robert W. MacVicar
10 September 1969

If you would like to receive the Center Newsletter regularly please send your name and address to the Director, Center for Vietnamese Studies and Programs, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901.